

LONGWOOD CITY COMMISSION
Longwood City Commission Chambers
175 West Warren Avenue
Longwood, Florida

MINUTES
October 3, 2022
6:00 P.M.

Present: Mayor Matt Morgan
Deputy Mayor Tony Boni
Commissioner Abby Shoemaker
Commissioner Matt McMillan
Commissioner Brian D. Sackett
Dan Langley, City Attorney
Clint Gioielli, Acting City Manager
Michelle Longo, City Clerk
David Dowda, Police Chief
Michael Peters, Fire Chief
Chris Kintner, Community Development Director
Judith Rosado, Financial Services Director
Shad Smith, Public Works Director

1. **CALL TO ORDER.** Mayor Morgan called the meeting to order at 6:14 p.m.
2. **OPENING INVOCATION.** Father David Scotchie, Nativity Catholic Church gave the invocation.
3. **THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.** Deputy Mayor Boni led the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. **COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS.** Ms. Longo read the following announcements and noted National Night out originally scheduled for October 4 has been cancelled and will be rescheduled at a later date.
 - A. **National Night Out will be held on Tuesday, October 4, 2022, from 5:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at Candyland Park, 599 Longdale Avenue.**
 - B. **The “Downtown Longwood Cruise-In” Car Show will be held on Saturday, October 8, 2022, from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. in the Historic District of Longwood located off Church Avenue.**

- C. **Orlando Health South Seminole Hospital will be sponsoring the “Concert in the Park” Event on Saturday, October 8, 2022 from 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. at Reiter Park, 311 West Warren Avenue. Music starts at 7:00 p.m. and food will be available for purchase. The band will be will be *Torn* and this is a free event.**
- D. **The City of Longwood will host a “Food Truck Battle Event & Concert in the Park” on Saturday, October 15, 2022 from 4:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. at Reiter Park. The band will be *Toppermost a Beatles Tribute Band*.**

5. PROCLAMATIONS / RECOGNITIONS

- A. **District #5 Presentation of the Business Person of the Month Award for September 2022 to Spay N Save located at 988 North Ronald Reagan Boulevard.**

Commissioner Sackett read a brief biography on Spay N Save and presented Joanne Montchal, Executive Director with the Business Person of the Month Award for September 2022. Photographs were then taken.

- B. **Presentation of the Beautification Award to Publix Super Market at Longwood Hills Road.**

No one was present to accept the Award and arrangements will be made to deliver it to them.

- C. **Proclaiming the week of October 9 through 15, 2022 as “National Fire Prevention Week” in the City of Longwood.**

Commissioner McMillan read the Proclamation and presented it to Chief Peters and those present from the Fire Department. Photographs were then taken.

6. BOARD APPOINTMENTS. None.

7. PUBLIC INPUT

- A. **Public Participation.**

Johnnie D. Richardson, 1050 Alameda Drive, Longwood. He sent in a letter to thank the Public Works Department and read the letter into the record. It was as follows:

On behalf of Johnnie & Elsie Richardson, we would like to express our most sincere appreciation and admiration to the Longwood Public Works Department for their outstanding contributions and tireless efforts that was over and above the norm leading up to the preparations prior to, during and after Hurricane IAN.

We as Longwood citizens appreciate everything that the Public Works Department did to ensure the streets, the lift stations, the power, and infrastructure of the City of Longwood remained intact and fully operational and ensuring that the city streets were clear from debris and passable for the Longwood residents.

The dedication and endless hours that each of the employees spent working Hurricane IAN, and the professionalism that each of them demonstrated during this Hurricane reflects great credit upon themselves, their management, and the City of Longwood.

We are proud to call Longwood our home and pride ourselves knowing that the City of Longwood and its entire management team always has our backs.

In closing, we commend you and your team for keeping up the good work and going that extra mile for the Citizens of Longwood.

Thanks again for all your hard work and your many contributions.

Judi Coad, 1695 Grange Circle, Longwood. She commented Mr. Richardson's letter was beautiful also thanking all the city employees for all they have done. She said she has lived here for thirty-six (36) years and always has felt safe and comfortable. She noted that night the Commission will decide on the use of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds again. Previously, the Commission elected to spend the funds on a 3.60-month credit on the garbage bills for approximately nine (9) months costing \$166,276.80 so if extended another nine (9) months that brings a total spent of over a third of a million dollars. She said the customer only receives \$32.40 per month for that nine (9) month period. She asked the Commission to consider the possibility of over a third of a million dollars being able to provide for the people the necessary equipment for expanded police personnel, per our Charter, or safety gear for our fire personnel, fire trucks with a lower amount financed, water treatment facility needs, or the cost of sewer expansion conversions that are not grant funded. Using the ARPA funds in this manner also provides the taxpayer a reprieve from the City having to raise taxes to provide these required environmental, safety, and public needs. All residents and businesses would benefit from these forms of

use. Additionally, this is a more fiscally sound use of ARPA funds, also providing the City a higher reserve account. She asked the Commission to please consider this when they have their conversation and vote that evening.

8. MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS' REPORT

District #3. Commissioner McMillan also thanked staff and management for their response to Hurricane Ian adding comments by Father Scotchie, Mr. Richardson, and Mrs. Coad were all well said.

Commissioner McMillan, referring to Oktoberfest in Munich, Germany, reported on Saturday, September 24, he attended two (2) Oktoberfest's in Longwood. The events included Hourglass Brewing and Alestone Brewing and both were well attended. Alestone Brewing was tied in with the Ultimate Car Show at Reiter Park where he saw the many cars as well as the Farmers Market that morning. He noted that event was another example of how the Historic District can develop when there are multiple events going on at the same time. On September 25, he attended the 5th Annual Pray for Our Leaders event hosted by True Life Church on Markham Woods Road. He thanked Antonio and Mariana Reyes who attended the last Commission meeting and personally invited him. He also thanked Pastor Brad Parker for hosting and the inspiring message of Pastor Travis Hamzik. Heroes Strong also was present, recognizing veterans and first responders fire and police. The event was very well done.

Commissioner McMillan reported on "the true, good, and the beautiful". For "the true", he said the City received almost a foot of rain from Hurricane Ian. For "the good", he saw the neighborliness after the hurricane passed. He saw neighbors helping one another during fallen trees and cleaning yards, really reaching out to one another. He added new neighbors in his parents' neighborhood sent their children to help with their yard so before he even got there a lot of cleanup was already done. For "the beautiful", he noted the weather the last few days bringing clear and sunny skies. He said it was a blessing there has been no rain since the hurricane left meaning less exhaustion for workers in cleanup efforts as well as reduced storm waters for Longwood and its sister cities.

District #4. Mayor Morgan said on Tuesday, September 20 he attended the Mayors and Managers Meeting. The meeting included a presentation by Alan Harris, Seminole County Emergency Manager, and Bob Dallari, Seminole County Commission Chairman. All of the mayors and managers were able to discuss the upcoming hurricane at the meeting and share

information with other cities. He thanked Mr. Gioielli for his participation in the meeting.

Mayor Morgan reported on Thursday, September 22 he attended the grand opening for the new basketball court resurfacing at Candyland Sports Complex. The event which was well attended included youth from Longwood and other cities in Central Florida. He said the idea is to provide safe, family-fun scenarios for children in Longwood while also inviting others to the City. Other event attendees included the Orlando Magic and former all-star Bo Outlaw. He commented the court has a Candyland game design on it. New breakaway rims and backboards also were installed.

Mayor Morgan commended Mr. Gioielli, the blue-collar division, firefighters, and police for their preparation of Hurricane Ian. He said this was the most organized he has seen so far and best setup in advance. During the hurricane, he took his son Jackson and family to a nearby shelter, and rode around with Mr. Gioielli to thank the City workers. He pointed out these City employees had to leave their own families to protect the City, and it is more than just a job for them. He noted the employees did not complain or talk about their own families but instead were focused on the needs of the City. He said police and fire workers earn their pay raises, and because of these raises the City has the best staff to come out of the academy and they proved it during this past hurricane. He added staff were able to clear out thirty (30) trees the next day at major intersections as well as entrances to neighborhoods. He stated on Thursday there will be storm debris pickup and asked that debris be placed curbside. He also noted today Waste Pro resumed regular service and will be helping with the pickup of smaller storm debris on their normal yard waste day. He thanked Mr. Gioielli for his leadership during Hurricane Ian.

District #5. Commissioner Sackett said he heard a man critiquing that he was absent at the last Commission meeting. He noted tonight was his 490th meeting, and he only has been absent five (5) times over the nineteen (19) years he has served. His absences were because of the passing of family members and his wife's cancer. He said he and wife have been together forty-eight (48) years and he planned a trip. He commented he was really touched by the letter composed and read by Mr. Richardson earlier. He thanked him for taking the time to write the letter that recognized City staff and management for their hard work during Hurricane Ian. Commissioner Sackett also thanked the Parks Department for putting out flags to commemorate September 11 at the Heroes Monument.

Commissioner Sackett reported attending the Ultimate Car Show and thought it was the best one yet. He added his grandson Phoenix now knows the names of all the different cars. He agreed with Commissioner McMillian the event tripled together with the Farmers Market and Alestone Brewing was smart and effective.

Commissioner Sackett congratulated the City's three police officers who recently earned their FBI Trilogy Award. He also helped the Public Works Department with sandbagging, and had his original golden shovel for Reiter Park from seventeen (17) from years ago. There was a woman who was shoveling for her military grandfather who could not get there for the sandbags so he joined her and gave her his golden shovel.

Commissioner Sackett said he went to an event that morning and people were thankful how fast the City responded to the hurricane, but noted there was still debris in some areas with trees down. He did speak to someone who lives on Cross Cut Way and they asked why their power always goes out first and why is it turned on last. They wanted to know what grid they are in. He recalled having a conversation with Duke Energy last year regarding the Devonshire neighborhood and they were able to subdivide the area into smaller routing sections which was effective. He noted there were forty-two (42) homes still out of power in the Tiberon Cove area as well as his home on Longdale Avenue. He noted after the storm all the City parks are open except Arbor Dog Park. He said people need the parks to play following the storm and cleanup.

Commissioner Sackett stated he received a suggestion that while Arbor Dog Park is closed, can staff put in a fence in the back for safety concerns.

Discussion ensued regarding the location in Arbor Dog Park and clarified that it is a gate to be installed in the back where the large dogs run, creating a second entrance to the park.

Mayor Morgan said he forgot to mention a women's group in Wekiva held a walk because of an attack in their neighborhood, and the group wanted to show other women in the area there is no reason to be scared. He said the event was well attended. He also stated the perpetrator was immediately caught and he thanked Seminole County Sheriff Lemma and his department.

District #1. Commissioner Shoemaker said she also attended several events with her fellow commissioners. She mentioned it was a real pleasure to meet Bo Outlaw at Candyland Sports Complex, and he advised her on how to throw a basketball. She thanked Mr. and Mrs. Richardson for taking the time to write a letter in recognition of City staff.

She also thanked Public Safety, City Manager, and Public Works for their hard work during Hurricane Ian. She said all of the employees, with Mr. Gioielli at the helm, feel supported and taken care of which makes for a good mix.

District #2. Deputy Mayor Boni said the Candyland Sports Complex Celebration was awesome. He suggested everyone to take a look at the newly resurfaced court with all the colors. He also attended the Ultimate Car Show saying it was a great event with a wide variety of cars. He thanked Candido Arreche, CEO of LiquidTech Chemicals Corporation, for his business sponsorship of the car show which included over 150 cars. He said he looks forward to the next show as it becomes an annual event for the City.

Deputy Mayor Boni thanked Mr. Richardson for his letter. He also thanked Fire Chief Mike Peters, Police Chief David Dowda, Acting City Manager Clint Gioielli, as well as all of the employees for an outstanding job during the hurricane. He pointed out Longwood is not only supporting their residents but surrounding cities as well. He said the hurricane impacted both the county and state. There were 2.6 million people without power, and as of 11:00 a.m. that day the number was down to 600,000. He noticed upon his return from Atlanta over 250 power trucks driving into Florida to help with power outages. In regards to his own home, he saw the storm water drain get clogged with leaves and the water starting to rise, and when he was going to clear the debris, Public Works was already cleaning the drain. He gave special thanks to Public Works for taking care of the streets and residents.

Mayor Morgan thanked Deputy Mayor Boni for his work on the Ultimate Car Show and turning the event into an annual one. He also mentioned resident Ryan O'Connor who started his 1,000-mile walk to Fenton, Missouri this past Sunday at Reiter Park. Mr. O'Connor, an Army Vet who has epilepsy, and has had over 500 seizures, and is making the walk to raise awareness for epilepsy and veterans with battle-induced seizure disorders. For donations, go to the website rocstopseizures.com.

9. **ANY ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA.** None.
10. **CONSENT AGENDA**
 - A. **Approve Minutes of September 7, 2022, Regular Meeting.**
 - B. **Approve the Monthly Expenditures for September 2022.**
 - C. **Approve a purchase order in the amount of \$75,000 to Empire Pipe & Supply for water and sewer related supplies.**

- D. **Approve a purchase order in the amount of \$100,000 to Hydra Service Inc., for pumps, parts, and repairs related to the City Lift Stations.**
- E. **Approve a purchase order in the amount of \$233,000 to Ring Power Corporation to purchase a Caterpillar 926M Wheel Loader.**

Commissioner Sackett moved to approve Items 10A through 10E as presented. Seconded by Commissioner McMillan and carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

11. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- A. **Read by title only and adopt Ordinance No. 22-2231, which adjusts the rate for Residential Solid Waste and Recycling Collection Services with Waste Pro of Florida Inc. (*Continued from the September 19, 2022 meeting.*)**

Mr. Langley read Ordinance No. 22-2231 by title only.

Mayor Morgan opened the public hearing. No one spoke in favor or opposition to Ordinance No. 22-2231.

Commissioner Sackett moved to close the public hearing. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Boni and carried by a unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Gioielli presented the Item and gave an update that Seminole County increased disposal rates by \$0.21 and this is a fee that Waste Pro pays.

Commissioner Sackett moved to adopt Ordinance No. 22-2231 as presented Item 11A. Seconded by Commissioner McMillan and carried by a three-to-two (3-2) roll call vote with Mayor Morgan and Deputy Mayor Boni voting nay.

12. REGULAR BUSINESS

- A. **Read by title only, set October 17, 2022 as the public hearing date and approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 22-2233, authorizing the issuance of debt in the principal amount of \$4,557,762.00 to finance the East Longwood Phase II Septic Tank Abatement and Wastewater System Improvement and Expansion Project.**

Mr. Langley read Ordinance No. 22-2233 by title only.

Mr. Gioielli presented the Item.

Commissioner McMillan moved to approve Ordinance No. 22-2233 and set October 17, 2022 as the public hearing date. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Boni and carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

- B. Approve a change order in the amount of \$41,978.62 to Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc. (VHB) purchase order No. 22-00727 for additional Professional Engineering Services associated with the design and permitting related to the South Longwood Pedestrian Connector Sidewalk Improvements Project.**

Mr. Gioielli and Mr. Smith presented the Item.

Commissioner McMillan moved to approve Item 12B as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Shoemaker and carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

- C. Read by title only and adopt Resolution No. 22-1613, which amends the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 budget to appropriate funds for Construction in Progress Projects under the Public Facilities Capital Project Fund.**

Mr. Langley read Resolution No. 22-1613 by title only.

Mr. Gioielli presented the Item and stated this item is related to 12B.

Commissioner McMillan moved to adopt Resolution No. 22-1613 as presented Item 12C. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Boni and carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

- D. Read by title only and adopt Resolution No. 22-1614, which amends the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 budget to appropriate funds for Interlocal Agreement between the City and Seminole County for Assistance Programs under the ARPA Fund.**

Mr. Langley read Resolution No. 22-1614 by title only.

Mr. Gioielli presented the Item.

Commissioner Shoemaker moved to adopt Resolution No. 22-1614 as presented Item 12D. Seconded by Commissioner Sackett and carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

E. City Commission approval of a final plat for Monterey North.

Mr. Kintner presented the Item.

Commissioner McMillan moved to approve Item 12E as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Sackett and carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

F. City Commission approval of Cure Plan for 410 Myrtle Street.

Mr. Kintner presented the Item.

Commissioner McMillan moved to approve Item 12F as presented. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Boni and carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

G. City Commission discussion on the continued use of ARPA Funds for the rate increase from Waste Pro of Florida, Inc. for residential solid waste collection services.

Commissioner McMillan said he requested this Item for discussion and he would like to continue the use of ARPA funds for the rate increase for Waste Pro from last year. He proposed the Commission to continue using ARPA funds as a credit on residential bills but not cover the new increase. He explained ARPA funds were for economic impact to residents due to COVID, and funds have been used to purchase real estate and capital needs. He said he would like to see part of the ARPA funds go directly to the residents in a fair way at an equal amount so it goes to every resident no matter if they are a family or an individual.

Discussion ensued and comments made to clearly note the bills that this is a credit, time frame, and what amount is to be covered.

Commissioner McMillan moved to continue the ARPA credit currently in place of \$3.60 for Waste Pro of Florida, Inc. for residential solid waste collection services for another fiscal year. Seconded by Commissioner

Shoemaker and carried by a four-to-one (4-1) roll call vote with Commissioner Sackett voting nay.

13. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Gioielli said in regards to the last agenda item 12G there will be a gap because the bills have already gone out for the next month but everyone will get caught up on the next billing. He noted residents will be educated of this situation.

Commissioner Shoemaker asked in reference to a gap does Mr. Gioielli mean a credit on the next bill for trash collection.

Mr. Gioielli responded staff can show a credit on the next bill.

Mr. Gioielli reported many steps were taken in preparation for Hurricane Ian by the Utilities Department, that is the Blue Collars inclusive of Leisure Services that are combined at a time of hurricane. In addition, the Emergency Manager along with the Police Chief and police and fire staff set up an Emergency Operation Center not only in the City but also with the Seminole County Emergency Operation Center. The City also provided security at Lyman High School, staff visited with vulnerable residents, as well as those with medical and mobility issues in advance of the hurricane, and afterwards. Staff also helped distribute 9,820 sandbags in a two-day period.

Mr. Gioielli stated since the storm Duke Energy reported half of Tiberon, Sleepy Hollow, and Lormann Circle were still the three (3) clusters without power in the City. Seminole County had well over 100,000 households without power in the beginning and Duke Energy is reporting there are under 5,000 residents still without power. He said staff has been able to clear the majority of the roadways and roadway and right of way clearings are ongoing. All of the city's thirty-six (36) lift stations are now powered through Duke Energy and fully functional. He mentioned there had been some mechanical and electrical issues with the lift stations the last couple of days, and likely a result of the equipment being overtasked for an extended period of time without electricity. The water plants were originally completely operational, but unfortunately there was an electrical issue and power outage at Plant Two today. However, the system continued to function under generator power.

Mr. Gioielli reported all city's facilities were now open with the exception of Arbor Park Dog Park, as a result of trees falling on the fence and causing some damage. He stated there were two (2) city buildings that had physical damage from the hurricane. Staff has completed a City-wide damage assessment which has been reported to Seminole County and

the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The City of Longwood is requesting FEMA to assist with facility damage and infrastructure damage and this has been submitted. He reported the storm debris removal plan has been implemented and will start on Thursday. A later day was selected because some residents were either out of town or others had not finished cleanup efforts. The debris removal will begin on Thursday and go over multiple days to get through all of the streets. Regarding private streets, if debris is placed in a public right-of-way it will be picked up. Rules are posted on the City website and social media on how the debris is to be stored and separated, not obstructing traffic, sidewalks, or mailboxes. Waste Pro returned to its regular schedule and plan to service the residents as quickly as they can, taking into consideration no trash pickup for two days during the hurricane along with debris from the storm. He reported the City of Longwood has had the opportunity to provide utility supplies to some of their neighboring cities in an attempt to help them support the critical needs of their residents.

Mr. Gioielli thanked the entire City of Longwood team including the Blue-Collar Group, police officers, and firefighters who all worked together before and after the storm. He noted they were away from their own families and homes and responded immediately within the City as soon as any of the residents called with issues. In addition, the Finance Department, Human Resources, which includes Risk Management, set up all of the expense reports and procurement processes. IT helped with the setup of the command center and facilitated all the necessary FEMA forms. He commented people were working from home and from work dealing with things the public never sees, and it is truly incredible to watch everybody come together in such an important and passionate way. He also thanked the residents for their support, kind words, and patience. He added staff feels comfortable working hard and is motivated by the support from each Commissioner. He said last Friday was the last day of the fiscal year and through the hurricane Finance was able to close out the budget and start the new budget, which was impressive. He said the City's normal business continues even in light of the disaster that surrounds them.

Mr. Gioielli provided an update on the audio system at Reiter Park. He reported Leisure Services is moving ahead with audio upgrades and hopes to have them in place in time for the holiday season.

14. **CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT.** No report.
15. **CITY CLERK'S REPORT.** No report.

16. **ADJOURN.** Mayor Morgan adjourned the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Minutes approved by City Commission: 10-17-2022

Matt Morgan, Mayor

ATTEST:

Michelle Longo, MMC, FCRM
City Clerk

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